



Committee on Ordinances

December 12, 2007 – 7:00 pm – **Agenda**
City Council Chamber, Room 214, Municipal Building

View Minutes

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1. Written Motion, Councillor Gonsalves, proposing that an Amendment be made to Section 2-157 of the City Code relative to DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS. (Ref'd 5/26/05, refer to Legal Counsel to draft an Ordinance amending Sec. 2-157, Demolition of Buildings 8/24/05, remain in committee 10/11/06, tabled 8/30/07 until next meeting so Anne Louro can get the language to Council, tabled 10/16/07 until language is presented to the Committee, tabled 11/27/07)

- 1a. AN ORDINANCE, Relative to amending Chapter 2, Section 2/157, Demolition Delay of Buildings & Structures. (Ref'd 11/16/07, tabled 11/27/07)

INVITEES: Acting New Bedford Historical Commission Chairperson/City Planner David Kennedy; Preservation Planner Anne Louro; WHALE Executive Director Lisa Sughrue; Attorney David J. Gerwatowski; City Solicitor Irene Schall

2. Written Motion, Councillor Gonsalves, recommending that the Ordinance Committee draft language to establish a monetary penalty for building violations. (Ref'd 9/11/07)

INVITEES: Atty. David Gerwatowski; City Solicitor Irene Schall; DIS Commissioner Ronald Durgin

3. Written Motion, Councillor Gomes, requesting that the Ordinance Committee meet with Scott Downing, Executive Secretary of the Traffic Commission, for the purpose of producing an Ordinance that would give the Traffic Commission the authority to mark driveways throughout the City, wherever they see the need, due to the inconvenience to many residents living in tenements with driveways, who have a hard time exiting their driveways due to cars parking too close to the driveways. (Ref'd 9/11/07)

INVITEES: Traffic Commission Secretary Scott Downing

4. Communication, Planning Board Chairman George Smith, to Council President Alves, requesting amendments to the Mill Overlay District Ordinances. (Ref'd 10/25/07, tabled 11/27/07 – No recommendation from the Planning Board)

- 4a. Recommendation Planning Board -

INVITEES: City Planner David Kennedy; Atty. David Gerwatowski; City Solicitor Irene Schall; Realtor Judith Lima

5. Written Motion, Councillors Coelho and Gonsalves, requesting on behalf of Mr. Stephen P. Sylvia, Sr., that the Park Department and Animal Control post signage, and take whatever action necessary, to compel Citizens to comply with Chapter 4, Section 4-29 of the Code of Ordinances, "Relative to Dangerous Dogs", No dogs are allowed on or within 500 feet of any City Park, or Playground whether at large or under restraint.; Mr. Sylvia and his son, have been approached by aggressive dogs running off lead at Buttonwood Park on numerous occasions while the animals' owners are standing nearby; and further that the Committee on Ordinances look into increasing the fine for unleashed dogs in public places. (Ref'd 10/25/07)

INVITEES: Animal Control Inspector Emanuel Maciel; Park Board Chairman Thomas Viera; Stephen Sylvia, Sr.

6. Communication, Bob Lyonnais, George Mellor, Conrad Gallant and Victor Cardoso, to Councillor Gonsalves, Chairperson of the Ordinance Committee, re: 10/27/07 S-T article “unleashed dogs in parks could bring higher fines,” requesting that signs be installed at tennis courts stating courts are to be used for tennis purposes only, prohibiting dogs, roller blading, hockey, and/or any other activities that abuse or damage the courts, which were repaired and repainted this past summer. (Ref’d 11/8/07)

INVITEES: Animal Control Inspector Emanuel Maciel; Park Board Chairman Thomas Viera; Stephen Sylvia, Sr.

Chairperson suggests to “Take Recommended Action” on the following matters:

7. Written Motion, Councillors Alves, and Gomes, asking that, in light of the City Council’s commitment to try to reduce the high unemployment problem in the City of New Bedford, that the City Council Committee on Ordinances meet with the Staff of the New Bedford Economic Development Council, specifically requesting the Staff Members responsible for the monitoring to appear before the said Committee, to explain what process or what steps are in place to monitor companies that have been granted tax incentives at the recommendation of the EDC, and to explain how the recent situation at the Michael Bianco, Inc. (company) was allowed to continue without the local monitoring process identifying the illegal employment that has been alleged by Federal and State Authorities, in light of the fact that, the Grant is in its second year, and employment monitoring is a required condition for the financial assistance to continue, and is required as part of the EDC monitoring responsibility; and further, that the discussion also include what the City Council can do to assist and improve the monitoring process, to ensure job opportunities encouraged and supported by this City Council are provided to legal tax-paying residents of the City of New Bedford, as intended when Tax Incentive Financing and Special Tax Assessments are voted on and approved for local businesses by the City Council and the Mayor. (Ref’d 3/8/07, 7/25/07 Morrissey EDC – provide city council with a list of all 82 companies with w/ active TIF’s) ***Refer this matter to the Committee on Labor & Industry***